

A Helpful Page for Practical Housekeepers.

Lace Blouses Are Smart When Trimmed

Lingerie waists are still worn, despite cold weather, and while the models grow more elaborate as time goes on, that the bodice may be appropriate with a smart cloth walking suit, in the main the lingerie shirt-waist remains the same. While made of finest handkerchief linen, there is so much embroidery work done, and so many yards of effective lace are employed that the ground fabric is pretty well hidden. White bodices that are to be worn occasionally with the handsome afternoon coat and skirt are composed entirely of lace and embroidered baliste, the waist being worn over a lined silk or satin slip.

Satin under slips are warmer than the washable silk and are, therefore, better for this weather. Satin will wash, too, although it is better to have them cleaned, as washing turns white rather yellow. This slip makes the waist as warm as any lined waist, and there is the advantage that the white waist can be washed or at any rate cleaned more frequently than an elaborate silk or chiffon blouse that has hitherto been smart even for the morning.

A slight figure, of course, does not require a fitted or boned corset. Cotton slips may be worn underneath the simple lingerie waists, but never under a lace bodice.

Very handsome are blouses of Irish point and Valenciennes combined. These are, of course, expensive in accordance with the quality of lace required, and are worn principally with afternoon costumes of cloth or velvet. With every

such suit there should naturally be a waist to correspond, but nevertheless there will be any number of days found a handsome white waist will be found necessary to wear with a street dress. Hard embroidery is now seen so much in all departments of dress that the shirt-waist, or rather separate bodice, cannot hope to escape. Ribbon work, gold and silver outlining the lace or large designs worked in embroidery silk, trim even the simple models, so that it can be imagined how exquisite are the really elaborate waists.

Ruching is now scarcely worn at all save in mourning, when a touch of white at the throat and wrists is necessary. As all lingerie waists and the majority of silk bodices are finished with lace collar and cuffs, ruching and turning over linen collars have been dispensed with. All collar-bands are now very high, and a suggestion of the peak under the collar is seen again. With an absolutely plain silk waist designed for a wedding costume, fine embroidered baliste or hemstitched lawn collars and cuffs are worn once more, and this style is always attractive and becoming. Linen collars are deeper than when worn before, in most cases covering entirely the silk collar-band. The cuff should be of the same width as the collar, saving, of course, a widow's cuff, which is some inches wider. It is rumored that tulle is to be worn again about the neck with the large bow in back, but as yet there is little indication of this fashion returning.

IN THE KITCHEN.

Housewives' Hints.

To make wine jelly attractive to serve, mould it in cups or glasses the size of a macaroon. Cut angelica in the shape of a star and put in first so that it will come in the top of the mould. Then through the centre alternate cherries, white fruits and macaroon. Turn out a macaroon on top, so that when turned out of the mould, it will hold the jelly.

Like Little Apples.

Sweet potatoes mashed can be made to look like little roasted apples. Mix into them white hot three beaten eggs, a little salt and a large tablespoonful of butter. Mould in the shape of small apples, brush each one with the yolk of an egg. Place in the oven until light brown. Place a clove in the top of each one, when they are done.

Marshmallow Cake.

Blanch and dry gently in an open oven sufficient heavy nutmegs to fill three-quarters of a coffee cup. Cool and chop very fine. Beat three eggs and whites together until very light. Add the nuts, two tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar and stiffen dough on the broad board until it is half an inch in thickness and cut into small diamonds that measure four inches from point to point. Lay on shallow greased tin and bake to a pale brown in a moderate oven. Frost while still warm with marshmallow icing.

Marshmallow Icing.

Melt over the fire in a double boiler half a pound of marshmallows and a quarter of a cupful of water. When dissolved, take from the fire and pour while hot over the well-beaten whites of two eggs.

White Fruit Cake.

One pound of sugar, one pound of butter washed carefully, whites of fourteen eggs, one small teaspoonful of soda sifted in one and one-quarter pounds of flour. Cream butter and flour, add the soda, then the whites of the eggs, beaten stiff, then the almonds, one-half pound of finely cut citron, one small coconut grated, one-quarter of a pound each of candied pineapple and orange peel, shredded. Flour the citron and candied peel and stir slowly in the batter; lastly, stir in almonds and grated coconut. Bake in a moderate oven.

Icing for White Cake.

Break the whites of four eggs in a cool bowl, have a pound of pulverized

A NEW YEAR'S PLAN FOR ALL THE WOMEN

Questions on Shakespeare's Plays to Be Asked and Answered.

For all women who may desire to turn profitable attention to Shakespearean plays during the coming year, a prize-winning opportunity is offered by the editor of the Woman's Page of The Times-Dispatch.

It is proposed to publish on this page January 7th twenty questions on "Taming the Shrew," together with a list of other Shakespearean plays that will follow in orderly sequence. In order that women throughout the State may be fully informed, these questions and the titles of the plays will be published each week in the Sunday issue of the paper, on the Woman's Page. Whoever sends in the best list of answers to the questions published on January 7th by January 31st will receive a special prize, the answers and the name of the winning contestant to appear on the Woman's Page of February 17th.

No person who enters the contest must send in more than one answer to each question. As brevity is a prime consideration, papers that are short and to the point will take precedence. All decisions in regard to prizes will be unalterable, and must be so accepted.

The editor hopes that this plan, inaugurated for mutual instruction, pleasure and benefit, may prove a great New Year success.

POET'S CORNER

New Year Prayer.

Bless us through the coming year,
God of old and God of new,
Keep us daily in Thy fear,
Make us steadfast, prove us true.
All unknown, Thy mercy, varied,
Darkening looms the New Year tide,
Bless us through the coming year,
Save us, God—the only Saviour.

Send, to guide us on our way,
Hope, Thy handmaid, undimmed—
Hope, who sees Thy face alway,
Whist, who on Thy bosom rests;
Love, obeying Thy behests,
Bless us through the coming year,
Holy Father, be Thou near.

Out of shadow into sun,
Move our feet, as pilgrims shod,
We approach, our travel done,
The all-glorious light of God.
Friend of wanderers, fainting, worn,
Thou wast weary; Thou didst mourn,
Bless us through the coming year,
Make Thy way our journey here.
Merry Wallace Brooks, in January Designer.

The Birth.

Above the pregnant cradle of the New
I saw the Old Year bend,
Ere tottering the Past's wide portals
Through,
His darkness way to wend.
I saw His pale lips move, as one who
Breathes.

A prayer and benison—
As grizzled knight to untired hands be-
queaths
A work yet scarce begun.

Methought I saw, from Time's far
apogee,
Collected round them stand,
The ghostly legion of the centuries
In grave ancestral band.
I saw the Old Year lift his head, with face
Of hallowed hope sublime,
And as he passed with slow and solemn

pace,
Pealed forth the herald chime.

I saw the little New Year lying there,
A babe, fresh-wakened, dumb;
Of all the years gone before the heir;
Of Time itself the sum;
Aroused to hear, in half-dismayed
surprise,
Its name so trumpeted;

Its young lips smiling brave resolve—its
eyes
Two wells of tears unshed.
Edwin L. Sabin, in *Anslees*.

The Skeptic.

I don't believe the Old Year dies
And passes from the earth;
I doubt the ancient tale
About the New Year's birth.

I think it is a mighty myth,
Despite the silver chimes,
And all the wishes, cards and calls,
The calendars and rhymes.

When twelve long months have come and
gone,
With different kind of weather,
The year is apt to find his coat
Will hardly hold together.

He gets himself another rig,
From hat to shiny boot;
So he is just the same Old Year,
But in a brand new suit.

—Mina Irving.

The Mavourneen Principle.

A Philadelphia man not long ago was
conversing with the agent of an auto-
mobile establishment when he observed
that the company must be making a for-
tune.

"I don't know about that," said the
agent. "It's true, I sell a good many
motors, but you see, a good many of
them are disposed of on the 'Kathleen
Mavourneen' principle."

"Why, what do you mean by that?"
"Payment on the installment plan," was
the answer. "Don't you remember the
old song, 'It may be for years, and it
may be forever'?"

Which Was More Forgetful?

"Women certainly are funny things,"
said the Busy Man a few days ago.
"They never think of the things they
ought to think of, things that would
occur to any man. The other day I was
down at my office. It was certainly
my busy day. I had an important en-
gagement with a man in my private
office and left word with my clerk that
I could not be interrupted, even by tele-
phone calls."

"But notwithstanding all that the
office boy stuck his head in the door
and said: 'A call on the phone for Mr.
Your wife, sir.' She wouldn't leave
the message, said it was important, and
she must talk to you right away."

"Well, I hurried out to the 'phone,
wondering what had happened, whether
Archibald had broken his neck or the baby
had convulsions."

"Hello," I called. "Maria, is that
you? For heaven's sake what has hap-
pened?"

"Nothing much, John, dear. I just
forgot to order some laundry yesterday
for the maid, and I want you to stop
on your way home and get it."

"Is that all?" I called, provoked, yet
relieved. "Why for goodness sake didn't
you call up the liquor store and order it
yourself, direct?"

"Why, I might have done that," came
her voice. "I never thought of it."
"Now, isn't that just like a woman?"

...

"Men certainly are funny things," said
the Quiet Little Woman a few days ago.
"They never think of the things they
ought to think of—things that would
occur to any woman. The other evening
I was sitting at home waiting for John
to come home from business. It was
the eleventh anniversary of our wedding,
and he hadn't noticed it in any way. I
wondered whether he would to-night.
I had prepared some little extras for
dinner, but I resolved to wait and see
whether he would notice it."

"At six he came in. Not a word about
the anniversary. He hurried through
dinner a little more than usual. After
dinner, John, dear, I said, 'let's do some-
thing to-night. Let's go to the theatre,
or have a little fun together somehow.'"

"Awfully sorry, Maria," he exclaimed,
moving toward the hat-rack, "but I've
got an engagement with three men at
the club to-night to play cards."

"And there I'd been thinking all day
long that it was our anniversary, and
waiting for a little recognition of it."

"When he came in at midnight, 'John,
dear,' I said, gently, 'do you know what
day this is?'"

"What day? Why, no—it's Wednesday,
the nineteenth, isn't it?"

"Yes, but something more than that,"
I said. "It's the eleventh anniversary of
our wedding, John. Have you forgotten
it altogether? You might have given
up the club and done something for me
to-night!"

"Well, by Jove, so it is!" he exclaim-
ed. "Hang it all, Maria, I never thought of
it!"

"Now isn't that just like a man?"—
Francis H. Lee, in *Sunday Magazine*.

THE ORIGIN OF THE ROMAN KALENDAR

Numa Pompilius, the second King of Rome, who died 672 B. C., is credited with promulgating what is now termed the Roman kalendar, which divided the year into twelve months of ten months, and to have decreed that the year should begin on the first day of January or Junius, the name he gave the month in honor of the god Janus, the Roman deity, supposed to preside over doors, and to have two faces, one turned toward the past and the other peering into the future.

St. Odilo's Feast.

January first is the festival of St. Odilo or Olo, abbot of Cluny, and original founder of All-Souls Day. He was a man of strong convictions and fearless to live up to them. No better evidence perhaps can be given than his act in the year 1008, during the severe famine, when he melted down the rich sacred vessels and ornaments of his church and sold the gold crown of St. Henry, which had been presented to the abbey, that he might by the means thus obtained relieve the necessities of his suffering people.

The sanctity in which such utensils should be held by every Christian world, from the standpoint of the church, perhaps, justify the sacrifice for such an ob- ject. But in those early days the su- perstitious reverence in which were held required a man of rare courage and firm convictions of his duty to take upon himself so great a responsibility. Odilo was not only a brilliant pupil of his order, but a man of great piety, and a saintly, extant, show. He died January 10, 1049.

New Year Customs.

In Virginia, New Year, as a holiday, has always ranked second to Christmas, although its observance during the hol- iday season has been always kept, and New Year's eve parties generally ended with watching the Old Year out and the New Year in, and with the inter- change of friendly wishes and pleasant courtesies.

Dutch Custom of Kissing.

When New York was under Dutch rule and Peter Stuyvesant was governor, he had a keen appreciation of the Dutch custom of kissing the women when wish- ing them a "happy New Year." Accord- ingly, at the first of January, when the Governor's assemblies were held in the mansion at New Amsterdam, there was a much be-kissed company.

New Year Gifts.

The custom of making New Year gifts came from the Greeks through the Romans, and by the time it was trans- mitted to the Britons. The Druids doubt-

less took the habit of distributing sprigs of mistletoe, as an augury of good luck on New Year, from the tradition that branches of evergreen from the forest were the ancient goddess Strenia, or Strength, who was sent to the Saline King Tullius, on the day of the year, as a happy omen. At the court of France in ancient times, with the New Year's pres- ent, a suit of new clothes was given every member of the royal household to be worn in honor of the holiday.

New Year in Many Lands.

In some parts of rural England young girls carry around a decorated wassail bowl from house to house, and while the householders partake they wish all a "Happy New Year." In Scotland, the person is not on duty on New Year's morn- ing, and the day is one of much merriment throughout the provinces.

In Wales, bonfires are lighted to wel- come the year. In the Dutch countries these bonfires are built in market places and into them are thrown old memories and other documents which the memories perish with the year. Meanwhile, the contributors who feed the flames dance merrily in a circle around them, singing a song of welcome to the New Year.

In France, the New Year festival is universally kept, and the sale of French bonbons and jewelry amounts to thou- sands of dollars, these goods being ship- ped all over the world. All Frenchmen have the habit of purchasing New Year gifts and the day is one of much merriment throughout the provinces.

In Switzerland, New Year's eve is simi- lar to Christmas Eve of America. The children are rung at midnight and sing carols. In St. Petersburg, Russia, it is an ancient custom for the Czar to break the ice in the Neva on New Year's day with much pomp and ceremony. In Norway and Sweden, feasts both private and public and singing of songs, mark the advent of the New Year.

In Germany, visits of compliment are exchanged on New Year's eve, and when the mid- night hour is struck, windows are thrown open and the people stand with their glasses raised, cry: "All hail to the New Year!" before they are drained.

In Japan, the ushering in of January 1st is signified by a great religious cere- mony, in which the Mikado and his at- tendants, in full court dress, are offered for the prosperity of the nation. Later there is an imposing court function, at which foreign diplomats are expected to appear and at which each receives a souvenir. In China, the merchant who for the square of his accounts before the New Year forfeits his right to the title of gentleman. Otherwise the coming of New Year is made known by the sending off of firecrackers, the beating of drums and much general hilarity.

Everywhere the New Year is recognized by a feast held in honor of the goddess, Krishna, and by the temporary abolition of the rules of caste.

And thus, the world over is the beauti- ful New Year's holiday, with its life- cups are lifted to him, and with the touching of their brims, the prayer of many hearts is voiced in the words: "O year, be kind—be kind, indeed. For we must follow where you lead!"

In the Drawing Room.

New Year's Eve Party.

This is a favorite occasion for a party among young people, and there are no more elaborate entertainments for such parties as for those at other seasons. A pretty idea is for the hostess to confine the list to twelve young ladies and twelve men, and to request each couple to dress so as to represent the particular month she assigns them.

Dark trousers, cotton neckties and white vests are the attire of summer for the young men as shirt waists, duck skirts andawn are for the young women, but it will take some ingenuity to devise an effect that will mark a particu- lar month.

Time to Assemble.

The guests should not assemble until 9 o'clock. There should be a large clock conspicuously placed in the room, and

if possible, an open fireplace, with a bright fire on the hearth.

The first part of the time should be taken up in guessing the months, the correct answer being the open fire in a circle. As that as one month is decided upon, the one who impersonates it rises, makes his or her bow to the company and recites at least four origi- nal lines pertaining to that month. The more ridiculous or witty they are the better they will be appreciated. After this comes supper, which may be as elaborate or simple as desired, and then a promiscuous mixing of the months will cause some merriment.

New Year Arrives.

Just as the clock is about to strike twelve, a knock on the door is heard. When the door is opened there is re- vealed a form dressed as an infant, in a long white dress, tied about with a sash on which is inscribed "January, 1906." If properly planned the appear- ance of this infant New Year will cause much merriment.

The guests join in a circle around the New Year, holding hands as the bells ring out the midnight hour and the spirit of 1906 passes to join the years that have preceded New Year's greetings, and wishes and good nights are then spoken.

New Year Social.

As the guests come in, each one is re- quested to sign his name in a note book, and to write underneath it a New Year's resolution. An entire page should be al- lowed each one so that no one may know what his neighbor has written.

Each guest should be given a card inscribed with an appropriate quotation, such as "Time and tide wait for no man." The cards are numbered and passed among the company, with the ex- planation that each guest is to amuse the company for the length of time it takes the sand to run in the minute glass from one end to the other, using for the purpose of entertainment some thought suggested by the quotation on his card.

What Each May Do.

One can recite a poem, another tell a story, another sing a song and so on until every one has done his share for the amusement of the others, following in order according to the numbers on the cards.

Hostess Last.

After each one has done his part, the hostess announces that she will now do hers, and proceeds to read each resolu- tion written in the book. The names of the writers being given, it will cause much merriment. No joshing set sail- ing two by two in a basin of water may be named, one for a man, the other for a girl. If they keep together, it is an indication that the pair will be mar- ried before the year ends, but if they separate, the fate of the twin is sealed for a year.

New Year Resolutions.

This game is played by providing each guest a paper and pencil, and having ten letters of the alphabet read to the com- pany. These are to be copied, the guests are told to write a New Year's resolution of ten words each beginning with one of the letters read. The length of time it takes the sand to run in the minute glass from one end to the other, using for the purpose of amusement—Bright Ideas for Entertain- ing.



A New Wooltex Model.

The Eton and hip length jacket, semi-fitting and tight-fitting, fills a promi- nent place in the newest lines of semi-dressy tailor-made for afternoon wear. Both are equally good fashion, and their choice depends much on the style of the figure on which they are to be worn. For the slender, youthful figure the coat in loose lines is very popular, but the woman inclined to roundness and curves would best adopt the garment that is tight-fitting. This model is a rich dahlia red broadcloth has a jaunty little peplum attached to the body portion, this not coming all the way around the front, but stopping short several inches short of the center front. The skirt has a plain front panel and circular sides, these trimmed with double rows of military braid in the same shade as the cloth. The jacket is cut almost severely plain, but braided very attractively, the narrow vest and flat stitched down collar of dahlia velvet. The sleeve is a plain leg-of-mutton pattern, finished at the hand with a narrow braided cuff. The hat is a plateau in a rose shade attractively bent and trimmed with white satin ribbon and rose colored wings.



Hat and Cape en Suite.

The popularity of furs seems to have reached its height this season. Never have so many beautiful and expensive, too-furry creations been brought forth to tempt women. Combinations of velvets, laces, embroideries and even braids with furs prove the latest things in this department of dress, an exquisite example of which is expressed in the illustration. Bands of Russian sable alternate with deeply pointed cream repousse lace in the shoulder piece, the long stole ends and high collar being entirely of the fur. Heavy cream embroideries are applied on the fur both front and back, and the front fastening is made with large silver buttons set with coral and rhinestones. The hat is a large shepherdess shape of the lace, the edge of the brim having a narrow piping of black velvet; the crown of a richly striped sable skin, and attached to the left side of the crown by a bunch of fine sable tails are three soft, fluffy black ostrich plumes which nod prettily over the brim.

In The Library.

Archibald Lowrey Sessions reviews Mrs. Edith Wharton's novel, "The House of Mirth." In *Anslees* for January, and says concerning it: "The House of Mirth is such a marked departure from Mrs. Wharton's previous work that one cannot predict what she has yet to achieve in this new field. We should be glad to see her genius deal with a theme more congenial, in the creation of a charac- ter conspicuously finer than his fellows and able to dominate its environment."

If Mrs. Wharton, as an author, con- tinues to compel, as adroitly as she has done, our interest in that portion of so- ciety which apparently commends itself least, she must ultimately refresh us with a glimpse of real greatness. One cannot stay long in a depressing atmos- phere without an occasional breath of freer air.

Mr. Bernard Shaw occupies the mind of the public a great deal these days. His book, "The Irrational Knot," deals with the marriage question and the at- titude that women take in regard to it must prove more or less significant con- cerning him, in relation to "The Irra- tional Knot." Mr. Sessions remarks: "Boomer or later people tire of cross- eyed egotism, and conclude that a man who writes such stuff is either a fool or a knave; in Mr. Shaw's case they will be likely to be convinced that he has not attained the heights of wisdom that he seeks to be accredited with, and with either of which he would be satisfied."

Among the charming New Year stories that women will enjoy must be noted "An Orchard Princess," by Ralph Henry Barbour; "The Poet, Miss Kate and I," by Miss Montague, a young girl living near White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.; and "The Household of Peter," by Rosa Nonchetta Carey, who knows how to write fiction of "the safe and sane order."